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File
Dubs Death

Answers to Question #8

(R)

1. According to information available from eyewitness reports of several of our Embassy officers, at least four (and possibly five) Soviet advisers were present at the Kabul Hotel during the assault by Afghan security forces on the room in which Ambassador Dubs was being held. One of these advisers, Sergey Bakhturin, is the security officer of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

2. We know that since the April 1978 coup in Afghanistan, the Soviets have taken on an important police advisory role. No additional information is available at this time on the background of the Soviet personnel at the Kabul Hotel.

3. At various times during the preparations for the assault on the room in which Ambassador Dubs was being held, American Embassy officers urged the Afghan officers and the Soviet advisers on the scene as well as Police Commandant Taroon (by phone) not to take any action which could jeopardize the Ambassador's life. Our DCM conveyed this same urgent message to Deputy Foreign Minister Dost by telephone. Foreign Minister Amin was unavailable to the DCM's calls, and an Embassy officer waited outside Commandant Taroon's office and unsuccessfully sought to see him.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY <i>W. O. Coffey</i> DATE <i>3-13-81</i>
DS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
REASON(S) _____
3 AUTH. _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DATED _____
A OF FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

We are not aware that any representations were made to the Soviet Embassy although Embassy officers had conversations with the Soviet Embassy security officer at the Kabul Hotel.

4. We have reviewed the available information and do not believe there were any links between the assault on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the killing of Ambassador Dubs. We are, of course, continuing our investigation into these incidents with a view to establishing all the relevant facts.

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